Michigan Department of Transportation Public Hearing Notice

Draft Environmental Impact Statement for the Detroit Intermodal Freight Terminal Study

The Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) is conducting a series of public hearings on the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) for the Detroit Intermodal Freight Terminal (DIFT) Study. The hearings are being held in accordance with federal and state public involvement/public hearings procedures.

The public hearings will occur at four locations in Southeast Michigan on June 13, 14, 15, and 16, 2005. To allow for easier participation, each public hearing will take place continuously from 5:00 p.m. to 8:30p.m., with a formal presentation at 6:30 p.m. followed by an opportunity for all to hear public comments and questions. Hearing dates and locations are:

June 13 at LA SED Gymnasium, 7150 W. Vernor, Detroit

June 14 at IBEW Local 58, 1358 Abbott St., Detroit

June 15 at Holiday Inn, 5801 Southfield Service Dr., Dearborn

June 16 at Michigan State Fairgrounds, Community Arts Building, 1120 West State Fair Ave., Detroit.

The hearing will provide an opportunity for the public to comment for the record on three Practical Build Alternatives for improving intermodal freight opportunities and efficiencies for business, industry and the military. Intermodal transportation at the existing Detroit area rail yards uses two modes, trucks and trains, to move freight in special containers. The Build Alternatives vary from improvement/expansion of existing rail yards; consolidating operations of all four major railroads at Livernois-Junction Yard in Southwest Detroit; and a "composite option" that consolidates the intermodal operations of CSX, Norfolk Southern and Canadian Pacific at Livernois-Junction Yard while expanding the Canadian National Moterm terminal. A "No Action" alternative also is under consideration.

Brochures summarizing the Draft Environmental Impact Statement and a review copy of the DEIS are available at:

- Ferndale Public Library, 222 E. Nine Mile, Ferndale
- · Henry Ford Centennial Library, 16301 Michigan Ave., Dearborn
- Detroit Public Library, 5201 Woodward Ave., Detroit
- Bowen Branch of the Detroit Public Library, 3648 W. Vernor, Detroit
- MDOT Detroit Transportation Service Center, 1400 Howard St., Detroit
- MDOt Oakland Transportation Service Center, 2300 Dixie Hwy., Waterford
- MDOT Region Office, 18101 W. Nine Mile Rd., Southfield; and
- MDOT Bureau of Transportation Planning, 425 Ottawa St., Lansing

The document also may be viewed on the Internet at www.michigan.gov/mdotstudies.

The public hearing will be conducted using a combined "open forum/open microphone" style format. Participants may stop by anytime during the scheduled hours to view displays and talk one-to-one with MDOT study team members regarding environmental, engineering, traffic, real estate, and other issues. Spanish and Arabic translators will be available.

A court reporter will record the formal presentation and public comment session, and will be available to take comments in private for inclusion in the public hearing transcript. Citizens also may complete a written comment form at the hearing or mail, fax, or e-mail their comments to: Robert H. Parsons, Public Hearings Officer, Bureau of Transportation Planning, Michigan Department of Transportation. P.O. Box 30050, Lansing, Michigan 48909; Fax: (517) 373-9255; or email: parsonsb@michigan.gov. Comments must be e-mailed, faxed or postmarked on or before August 16, 2005. For more information on this public hearing, or to find out more about the DEIS, write to the above address or call (517) 373-9534.

With an advance notice of seven days, MDOT can make most of the materials for this hearing available in alternative formats such as large print or audiotape, and can make accommodations for sign language interpretation and/or assisted listening devices. Please call (517) 373-9534 to request accommodations.